

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

HIGASHIHARA, et al.

Serial No: 10/562,712

Filed: December 23, 2005

For: Process For Producing Metal Plating  
Film, Process For Producing  
Electronic Part and Plating Film  
Forming Apparatus

Art Unit: 1753

Confirmation No: 8642

**TRANSMITTAL OF  
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sirs:

1. ☒ The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application other than a continued prosecution application, or within three months of the date of entry into the national stage of an international application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, whichever event occurs last. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b).
2. ☐ The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed *after* the period specified in §1.97(b), but *before* the mailing date of a final action under §1.113, or a notice of allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, whichever occurs first. A statement specified in §1.97(e) or a fee set forth in §1.17(p) is included. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c).

**§1.97(e) STATEMENT**

I, the person signing below, state:

- ☐ that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in the attached communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and that the communication is dated not more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).

OR

- ☐ that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the

information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2).

**OR FEE**

- ☐ Attached is a fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under §1.97(c). (\$180.00). [OR:] Please charge the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under §1.97(c) (\$180.00) to Deposit Account No. 50-1314. A copy of this petition is enclosed.
3. ☐ The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed *after* the period specified in §1.97(c), but before, or simultaneously with the payment of the issue fee. A statement specified in §1.97(e) and a fee set forth in §1.17(p) are included. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d).

**§1.97(e) STATEMENT**

I, the person signing below, state:

- ☐ that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in the attached communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and that the communication is dated not more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).

**OR**

- ☐ that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2).

**AND FEE**

- ☐ Attached is a fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under §1.97(d). (\$180.00).
4. ☒ If it should be determined that for any reason either an insufficient fee or an excessive has been paid, please charge any insufficiency or credit any overpayment necessary to ensure consideration of the information disclosure statement for the above-identified application to Deposit Account No. 50-1314. **A copy of this petition is enclosed.**
5. ☒ A list of 8 reference(s) is in the enclosed Form PTO-1449.

NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE REFERENCES

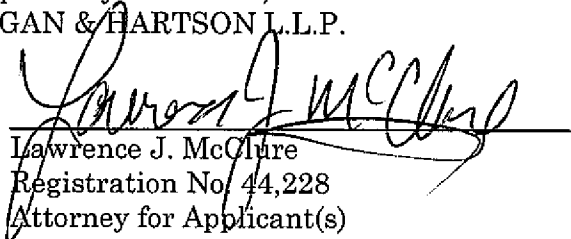
- ☒ Enclosed is a search report for a counterpart application. The search report Examiner has provided comments on the relevancy of any non-English language references cited in the search report.
- ☒ The applicant has provided partial translations of JP2000-109993 and JP8-83305. These references were submitted in a previous IDS, however the applicant requests that such translations be resubmitted with the USPTO.
- ☐ Set forth below are comments provided by the applicant's home country counsel on the relevancy of non-English language references:

Date: June 20, 2006

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Respectfully submitted,  
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

By:

  
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<b>FORM PTO-1449</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION</b>  <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>	<b>Docket Number (Optional)</b> 81872.0106	<b>Application Number</b> 10/562,712
	<b>Applicant</b> HIGASHIHARA, et al.	
	<b>Filing Date</b> December 23, 2005	<b>Group Art Unit</b> 1753

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO
	2000-109993	04/18/00	JAPAN			Partial Translation	
	08-088305	04/02/96	JAPAN			Partial Translation	
	2001-164394	06/19/01	JAPAN			Abstract	
	2001-049482	02/20/01	JAPAN			Abstract	
	04-116190	04/16/92	JAPAN			Abstract	
	53-146230	12/20/78	JAPAN			Abstract	
	2003-193282	07/09/03	JAPAN			Abstract	
	05-195289	08/03/93	JAPAN			Abstract	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.	